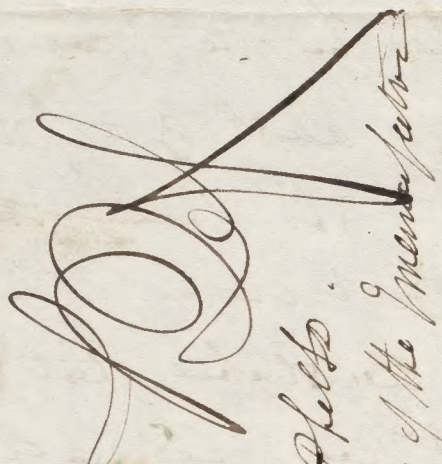


72
If you see fit to publish this letter do so. but not your
response. But the other communicators I wish you
to return without publishing it.


Rev. Amos A. Phelps.
Editor of the Messenger
Savannah, Ga.
N. York.



& religious interests. therefore we consider it improper for
any other minister or agent to come into the congrega-
tion in pursuance of their plans without seeking the
friendship, advice & cooperation of our pastor. —

The Resolution was adopted by the Mass of the members of
the church & society. at least 300 persons voted in favor
of it - & none against it. Tho. there were a very few who
did not vote at all. But even when they came to-
-gether in the evening they stated that they had no op-
-tion to the resolution - & they were all perfectly willing
to sustain their pastor.

The impression that we what you have made upon the public
mind that there was most dissatisfaction here with me
is without foundation. The people I believe ^{are} just as harm-
-less as they were when I was called. tho. we have ^{had}
some difference of opinion about the policy of your
narratives. I have no done with the controversy of
this subject - I have on purpose the most liberal course here
on the abolition question. but I have been grieved at your
policy here & have felt bound out of self respect to resist it.
I have only to request of you in what you may see fit to do
hereafter or send of us in your paper. be kind & brotherly & the
the rights of free copying may be sustained & the peace of our
congregation secured.

In kind regards yours
A. Granger

I therefore wish to pursue a conciliatory course. I desire to
this people both the rights of free enquiry & the harmony of the
congregation: — I addressed a letter to you in the Religious
Intelligence with a desire that you would copy it into your
paper - you can do as you please about that - —

I have felt Bro. Phelps that your course here has not been
kind & brotherly. you accept to have ^{keep} some regard to
my feelings & view I think as to the time of agitating
the subject. Whenever else you see fit to make statement
to the publick about me or this cong. - be sure of your facts &
you will save us much trouble — —

It is now quite evident that you & I are at issue as to the
propriety & right of your policy pursued here. in agitating
the abolition cause. at a given time against my wish.
I therefore felt it my duty to ascertain of my people who
they were a going to sustain you or me.

I therefore stated to them our discrepancy as to points of
order & presented to them the following Resolution for
their adoption.

Resolved. That as a congregation we are willing to tolerate difference of
opinion & action & free enquiry on all subjects. & that as we have
committed to our pastor the superintendence of our benevolent

Meriden.. 13. Nov. 1896

Mr Phelps. Sir. I addressed a communication to you last week with a desire that it should appear in your paper of that week. As it did not then appear & as the aspect of ~~your~~^{our} society has somewhat changed ~~in~~ within a few days in regard to the difficulty in which we have been on the abolition question - I now desire you not to publish the communication. But if you think proper to correct any erroneous statements you have made - particularly in regard to my giving encouragement that I would lead the abolition party here - & thus act in the character of a partizan I should be glad. I desire this from the unhappy influence the statement made upon my own people & from the fact that the statement was wrong - I would like you also to correct the statement that my people were dissatisfied because I read the resolutions of our Gen. Assoc. Though some of them disapproved the Resolutions - I have never known one dissatisfied that I read them ..

We have had a meeting this evening of the leading men of our Church on both sides of the question. & its results have been the most happy. & plans have been made & the prospect of peace restored.